it will be necessary that the subsidy, if any, payable to SEB upto the immediately preceding financial year has been fully paid by the State Government and the State Government/SEB has furnished to the satisfaction of PFC necessary schedule of payment of subsidy for the Financial Year in which proposal of sanction of new loan is to be considered.

3. The SEB should have signed an Operational and Financial Action Plan (OFAP) to the satisfaction of PFC, through which it takes a set of time-bound actions to improve its working.

4. The SEB should have submitted the Provisional Annual accounts within one year from the close of the Financeial Year (FY) and the audited Accounts within two years of the close of the Financial year.

(5) There should have been adequate "exposure limit" fixed by PFC for sanction of the loan and for lending to the SEB.

6. In case of loans previously sanctioned by PFC to the borrower, there should not be any default in repayment of principal and payment of interest due to PFC at any time.

In dddition to the above, in appraisal of a project for PFC loan, the concerned project should meet the following criteria;-

(a) is economically justified, with a rate of return of not less thta 12 per cent,

(b) is technically sound,

(c) technical solutions proposed must be "least cost",

(d) is compatible with existing expansion plans,

(t) solutions proposed should meet GOI or State Government' enviro mental and impact standards, whtchever are more stringent and

(f) the project should have all clearances required by the State and federal agencics.

Not Special relaxation has been given in regard to condition at (1) above by PFC as under;-

"The SEB should have achieved at least 2 per cen. Rate of Return on the net fixed assets employed during the Financial Year 1991-92 and is agreeable to commit in writing through "Plan or Action" to the satisfaction of PFC to improve its financial performance to the extent specified for each year (the year being 1992-93, 1993-94, 1994-95 and 1995-96) under the plan so as to assure increasing trend in Rate of Return, and ensure that 3 per cent of Return is achieved with the above period and, in any case, not beyond 1995-96".

Indo-US Coorporation iu the Power Sector

1056. SHRI G. Y. KRISHNAN:
SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL:
SHRI SURESH PACHOURI:
SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA:
SHRI GURDAS DAS GUPTA:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the outcome of the discussions held by Government with the US Energy Secretary Hazal O' Leary in the matter of Indo-US Technical Co-operation in Energy Related areas during the last month;

(b) the nature of various pacts concluded with the United States including a broad memorandum of understanding on bilateral energy consultation, for cooperation in the power sector;

(c) whether Government have since announced its first counter-guarantee for the US financed power project; and

(d) if so, its salient features and it not, the state at which the matter stands at present?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU); (a) and (b) Wide ranging discussions to promote cooperation in the energy sector were held during the recent visit to India of the US.

Energy Secretary. The following documents were signed at the end of the visit:

1. A Memorandum of Understanding between Government of India (Ministry of Power) and the Government of U.S.A. (Department of Energy) to hold periodic consultations between the two Governments.

2. A Joint Statement of Intent between the Ministry of Power of the Republic of Indta and the Department of Energy of the United States of America to cooperate in the field of energy efficiency.

3. A Joint Statement of Intent between the Ministry of Coal of the Republic of India and the Department of Energy of the United States of America to cooperate in the field or ritenergy energy.

4. A Joint Statement of Intent between the Ministry of Non-Conventional Energy Sources of the Republic of India and the Department of Energy of the United States of America to cooperate in the field of renewable energy.

5. A joint Statement of Intent between the Ministry of Environment and Forests of the Republic of India and Department of Energy of the United States of America to cooperate in Environment Enhancing Energy Technologies.

(c) and (d) No, Sir. The matter is under consideration.

Rural Electrification in Orissa

1057. SHRI SARADA MOHANTY: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Rural Electrification Corporation Ltd. has been making provision of electricity in the rural areas expeditiously;

(b) if so, the State-wise number of villages electrified by REC during last three years;

(c) the target set for electrification in Orissa by the end of Eighth Plan; and

(d) the actual number of villages in Orissa brought under electrification so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) Rural Electrification Corporation (REC) provides financial assistance to State Electricity Boards (SEBs)/Electricity Departments for rural electrification works. The responsibility for provtding electricity in the rural areas, however, rests with the SEBs/State Power Departments.

(b) The number of villages electrified during the last three years with financial assistance from REC are given below:—

1.	Assam	11
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	149
3.	Bihar	715
4.	J & K	22
5.	Madhya Pradesh	3212
6.	Manipur	281
7.	Meghalaya	136
8	Mizoram	160
9.	Orissa	1437
10.	Rajasthan	2254
11.	Tripura	435
12.	Uttar Pradesh	2124
13.	West Bengal	1204
	TOTAL	12143

(c) The targets for rural electrification programme are fixed by the Planning Commission on an annual basis. Durtng the first three years of the Eighth Five Year Plan, 1315 villages have been targeted for electrification in Orissa.